[Ma. S. J. Nair.]

The Secretary then read the title of the Bill as The Travancore Forest Regulation (Amendment) Bill.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*); As there is only a single Clause in the Bill it need not be referred to a Select Committee.

THE TRAVANCORE MEDICAL REGISTRATION BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, this Bill was introduced in the Assembly in May 1935, but unfortunately owing to other work the debate on it was not concluded.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: At that time, was anybody in possession of the House?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai was speaking last and he is not here to-day.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether it is proposed to continue the old Bill?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: There is a particular rule with regard to that. You will help me by letting me know the rule.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): May I suggest to you Sir, that *any* member can speak on the Bill with your permission?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Let us see if the law allows it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, on page 17 of the Assembly Manual, paragraph 30, says: "On the termination of a Session, all pending notices shall lapse."

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: But a Bill introduced by Government does not lapse.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): It has already been introduced.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Sir, I wish to make one observation. I support the principle of the Bill. Nevertheless, I shall remind this House of one point. This Regulation is to safeguard people from the malpractices by unlicensed medical practitioners in the allopathy system of treatment. When we consider this question, one fact should be borne in mind. On whom are the moffusil people now dependent for their medical aid? Sir, this question of supplying medical aid to rural areas had been dealt with in almost all the budget sessions of this Assembly; various representations have been made, yet people in the moffusil areas are now badly in need of medical aid. This is a factor which should engage the serious attention of Government. For medical aid these people in the rural areas depend upon these so called quack doctors and many of the members are aware that these quacks are sometimes more useful than the qualified doctors.

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT : By qualified doctors does the member mean doctors with a degree ?

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : Yes, Sir. There are several cases in which these quacks have successfully dealt with many cases in rural areas, where many qualified doctors have failed, so that, if the Regulation is strictly enforced, many a man will be without medical aid. Before enforcing this Regulation, I request Government to do all that is possible to extend medical aid to rural areas.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The member will be in order if he makes observations upon the Bill. After the Bill is enacted the Government may or may not enforce it.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : Anyhow, there is a provision as stated in the objects and reasons, by which any man, although he is not a degree-holder, if he gets a certificate from the Medical Council appointed to issue certificates, can practise. But the only thing is that this Council should not be very strict in granting certificates to these so-called quacks who are at present very useful to society in several instances. With these observations I support the principle of the Bill.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : There is one difficulty. Are you pressing the claims of these quacks on the admission that they are quacks ?

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : Not exactly. What I wish to point out is that, in the matter of granting license by the Medical Council, there should be a liberal attitude.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Is it that license may be given to people who have no degree ? I am unable to follow your line of argument.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : People even without qualifications or degrees are permitted to appear before the Council and undergo a test. The Council should take into consideration the real utility of their services to rural population and, although not degree-holders, should be very liberal in their treatment, till provisions for rural medical aid are more adequately met.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : I oppose the principle of the Bill. Generally, recourse to legislative enactments shall be had only, if the State finds that there is real danger. Well, Sir, so far as the medical practitioner's history in Travancore is concerned, we do not find any danger accruing out of the presence of the various medical practitioners in the State. If at all there is any danger that danger is from the medical practitioners in some Government hospitals in the State and not from the private practitioners.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I fear that is not relevant.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : This Bill is intended for two purposes. Firstly, for the registration of the really qualified men and secondly for penalising the unauthorised practitioners. Clause 13 of this Bill mentions the persons who may be registered and the Schedule of the Bill gives out qualifications for registration. So far as the qualifications given in the Schedule are concerned, I know, as a matter of fact, that there exist so many successful medical practitioners in the

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[Mr. S. J Nair,]

Mission Hospitals in the State. They are more successful than the most successful medical officers in the State service.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The honourable member has already spoken on this motion. (*Laughter*).

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I suppose that is correct.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Yes, it is correct.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I am thankful to the Director of Public Instruction for having informed the House that Mr. S. J. Nair has spoken already. I think that nothing need be said so far as Mr. S. J. Nair's speech is concerned. He seems to have spoken several months ago. One of the members adverted to that question and the House found that he had spoken. I presume that Mr. S. J. Nair rose to speak without remembering that he had already spoken.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Sir, I wish to know whether I have spoken.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Yeakil*): Yes.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether Mr. S. J. Nair's speech to-day will find a place in the Proceedings?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Such matters may be left to the President to decide. Mr. S. J. Nair, I may mention this. In trying to speak the member must find out for himself whether he has already spoken on this motion. Months have intervened.....

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): One word. I heard the Law Member informing the House that even those members who have already spoken can be permitted to speak.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. S. J. Nair was under a mistake. The Law Member never said that.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Sir, in supporting the principle of this Bill I wish to make one suggestion. I do not know why the scope of the Bill should not be made more comprehensive, by including within its ambit the Ayurvedic medical practitioners also. As it is, the scope of the Bill is confined to those practising the Allopathic system of medicine and surgery. Ayurveda has also come to stay in Travancore and the number of Ayurvedic medical practitioners also is on the increase. The Government themselves have in various ways recognised the importance of Ayurveda and they could not be unaware of the fact that among the Ayurvedic medical practitioners, there are a large number of quacks who do a lot of mischief by unauthorised practices. It is therefore highly necessary that in regard to Ayurvedic medical practitioners also, legislation should step in to prevent unauthorised practitioners. I am of opinion that the scope of the Bill should be extended by including Ayurvedic medical practitioners among

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the "Medical practitioners." With these words I support the principle of the Bill.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I may now reply to the debate. I know, that there is a feeling in this House that provision ought to be made for the control of the Ayurvedic medical practitioners. I quite appreciate that. But I fear that this Bill cannot help in the matter. The standards that are proposed in this Bill may not be quite applicable to the Ayurvedic doctors. The matter may however be considered separately.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether the measure is applicable to Sidha Vaidhyans?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): No. I fear the real thing is that there should be some accepted standard with reference to which control should be exercised. In the Western system there is some standard. It may not be possible to have a standard in the case of Sidha Vaidhyans, so far as I can think of.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The question before the House is that the principle of the Bill be affirmed.

The principle of the Bill was by consent of the House affirmed.

The Secretary then read the title of the Bill as "The Travancore Medical Registration Bill."

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai
" T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
" K. M. Krishnan
" N. E. Varughese
" K. A. Narayana Pillai
" P. Chidambaram Pillai
" T. K. Alexander
" V. Ramakrishna Panickar
" K. R. Elenkath
" K. Madhavan
" K. P. Krishna Menon
" A. S. Damodaran Asan
" K. M. Kuriakose
" Abdul Rahiman Sahib and
Srimati T. Narayani Amma.

The Committee is to report within four months.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Is it seconded?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes. I second it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Select Committee thus constituted will report within four months.

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